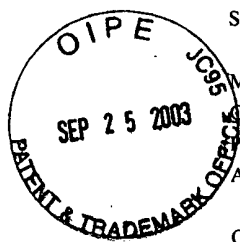


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PATENT
Docket No.: DF-14 US



Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

On 22 Sept. 2003

By: [Signature]

Clifford B. Perry, Reg. No. 43,854

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/618,455
Applicants : Foisy et al.
Filed : July 10, 2003
Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Docket No. : DF-14 US
Customer No. : 30499

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir or Madam:

Before examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following paragraph:

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of application no. 10/032,156, filed December 21, 2001 and a continuation-in-part of application no. 10/076,623, filed February 14, 2002, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,614,366, which is a continuation of application no. 09/757,078, filed January 8, 2001, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,373,406, which is a continuation of application no. 09/246,015, filed February 5, 1999, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,307,487, which claims the benefit of provisional application no. 60/101,473, filed September 23, 1998.

REMARKS

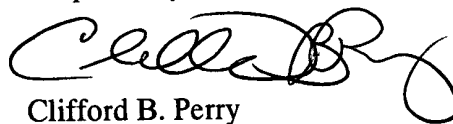
Preliminary amendment to the specification is hereby requested wherein paragraph [0001] is amended to indicate the present application's relationship to pending application no. 10/032,146. This claim of priority is proper as it is made within four months of the filing date, is made during the pendency of application no. 10/032,156, and names at least one common inventor with application no. 10/032,156. As indicated in the original filing, the application is a continuation-in-part of application no. 10/076,623, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,614,366.

A supplemental application data sheet listing the amended priority claim is also enclosed. The supplemental data sheet also corrects errors in the inventors' residential addresses. No matter has been introduced.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, a telephone call to the Applicants' representative, Clifford Perry, is invited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clifford B. Perry", with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Clifford B. Perry
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